

# A View from the Bridge

by Arthur Miller



## Manliness, Hostility and Aggression in the play

1. Eddie has a very particular view of what it means to be a man. List at least five qualities which you think Eddie considers to be manly e.g. to be a breadwinner

- a) d)
- b) e)
- c)

2. Rodolpho makes Eddie feel uncomfortable. Eddie says of him, 'the guy is no good' and 'the guy ain't right' and implies on many occasions that Rodolpho isn't a real man. List at least four names which Eddie and the other longshoremen call Rodolpho which show their distrust of him.

- a) c)
- b) d)

3. In what ways does Rodolpho not conform to what Eddie thinks of as being manly?  
e.g Eddie repeatedly makes jibes about Rodolpho's blonde hair

4. In what ways is Marco conventionally masculine? Give examples.

5. In spite of the importance Eddie attaches to masculinity there is at least one way in which Eddie is not conventionally behaving like a real man. Write down a quote on page 36 which shows this.

6. It could be argued that the characters' different ideas about what should or shouldn't make up masculine behaviour leads to much of the conflict in the play. For example, Eddie's protectiveness over women leads to tensions between him and Catherine. His possessiveness and attempts to manipulate her extend from her skirt length and type of shoes she wears to whether she takes a particular job. Use the table below to find other examples of where 'manly' qualities lead to conflict. Include quotes. The first has been begun for you.

<b>Quality</b>	<b>Conflict</b>
Protectiveness	Eddie is over-protective towards Catherine. He tries to regulate many aspects of her behaviour from what she wears to how she spends her time and who with. This creates tension when he tells her to change her shoes in Act One, ('What's the high heels for, Garbo?' p33) when he tries to dissuade her from seeing Rodolpho in Act Two and
Duty and honour	Marco's sense of his masculine duty and honour leads to